



Important Update Regarding COVID-19

Date: March 30th , 2020

Time: 4:00 pm CT

Agenda

- ❖ **Welcome by the Commissioner**
- ❖ Initial Comments by Governor
- ❖ Comments by Dr. Gary Anthone
- ❖ Presentation by the Commissioner
 - ❖ Priorities

Commissioner's Welcome

Zoom Protocols Going Forward

- We'll use Zoom as a webinar format
- There will be no chat feature
- Only “panelists” will be able to speak

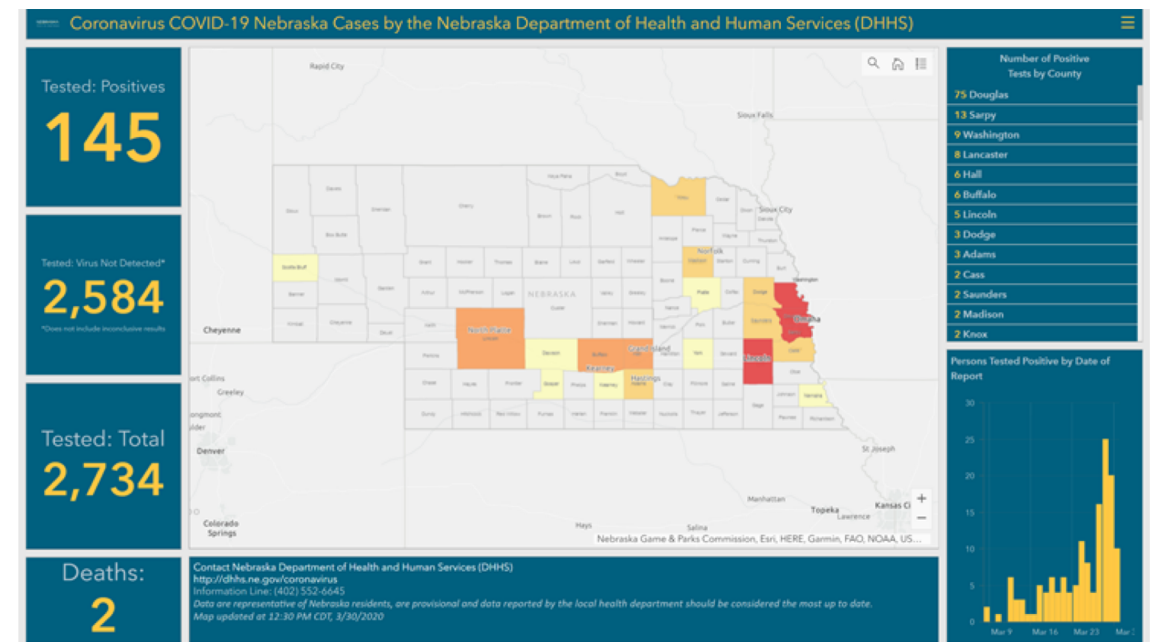
Reminder: Zoom meetings will be every
Monday at 4:00 pm

All dressed up for my zoom calls.



Agenda

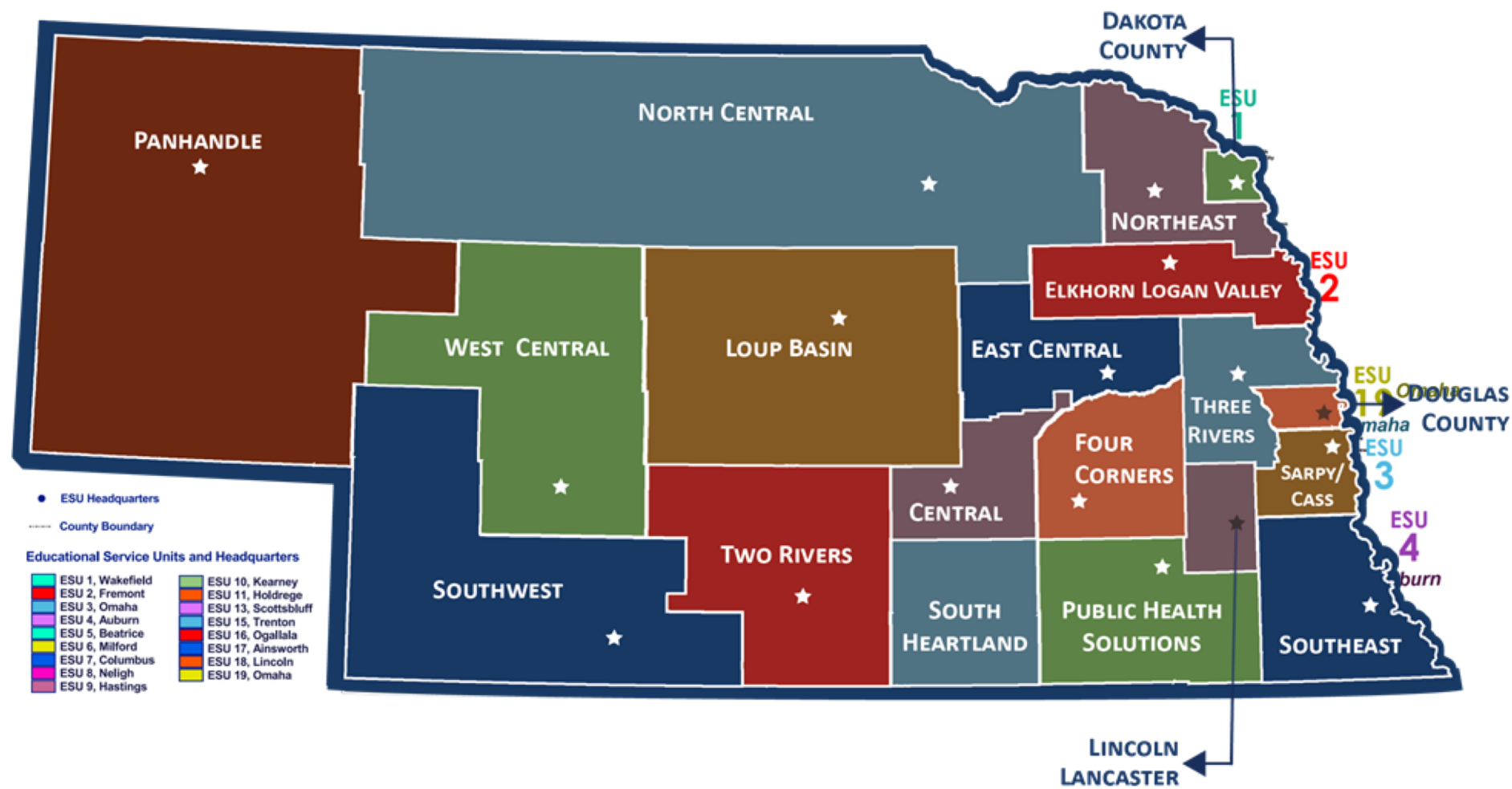
- ❖ Welcome by the Commissioner
- ❖ **Initial Comments by Governor**
- ❖ **Comments by Dr. Gary Anthone**
 - ❖ **Update on Nebraska cases (145 +)**
 - ❖ **Other State & Local Public Health insights**
- ❖ Presentation by the Commissioner
 - ❖ Topics to discuss today





2017-18 Nebraska Public School Districts and Nebraska Educational Service Units

Map Created by Colby Dunn
Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
Nebraska Department of Education,
Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer, ESU
16 June 2017

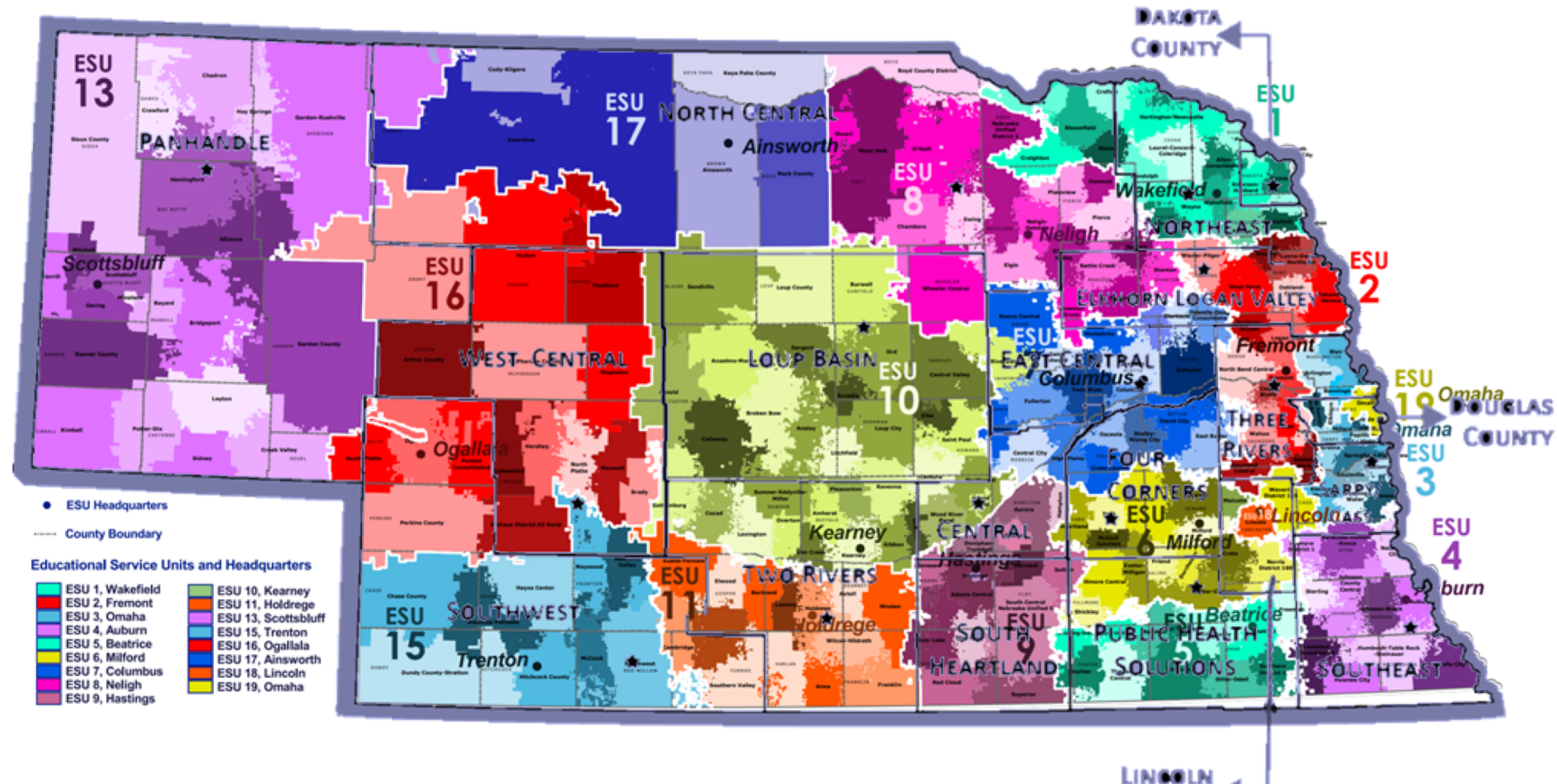




2017-18 Nebraska Public School Districts and Nebraska Educational Service Units



Map Created by Casey Dunn
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau,
Nebraska Department of Education,
Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer, ESU
14 June 2017



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- ❖ Welcome by the Commissioner
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- ❖ **Presentation by the Commissioner**

Topics In This Briefing

- How long will this last?
 - Discussion with Governor and health officials
- Questions surfacing from the field (Dan Schnoes)
 - Discussion with ESUs about regional approach to gathering questions
- Education-related topics
 - Food security – school meals (Sharon Davis)
 - Alternate learning environments and Continuity of Learning Plans (Cory Epler)
 - Special Education (Steve Milliken and Amy Rhone)
 - Accountability/Assessment waiver from USDoE

How long will this last?

- Governor and Public Health Officials

Using ESUs/Regional Conversations to Organize Questions from the Field

- Discussion with the Commissioner and Educational Service Unit leaders

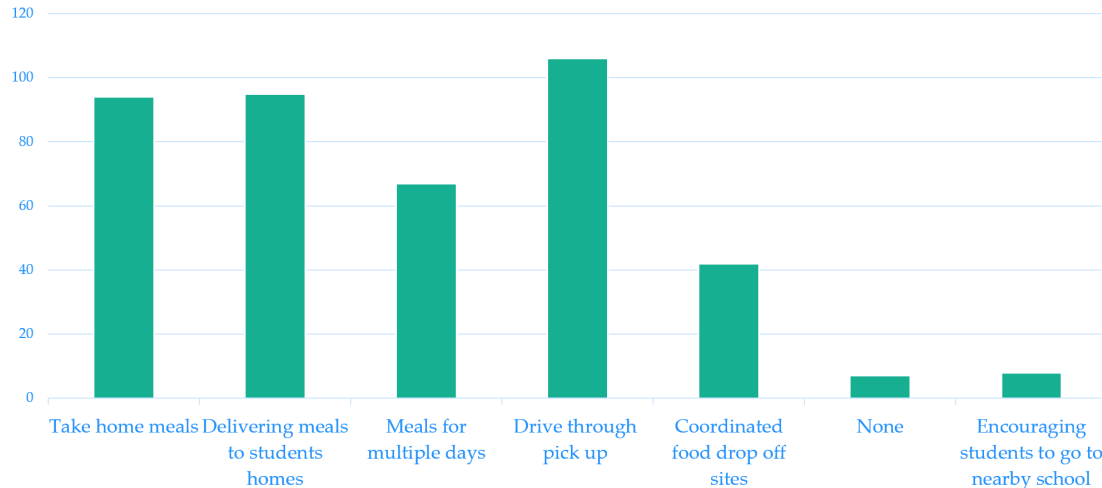
Education Topics

- Each week we will try to address some of the questions that have surfaced through ESUs regionally.
- As always, look to the www.education.ne.gov site for additional information.
- NDE staff are working to address key FAQs and other topics as we know them.

Food Security / School Meals

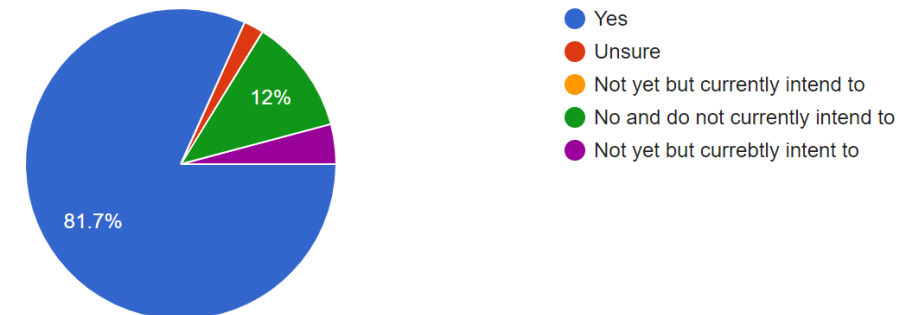
- Seven approved waivers to allow meals for children during unanticipated school closure.
- Visit NDE website for more information about feeding options including home delivery during closure time.
- The results of NDE survey revealed important information for NDE staff and partners to address challenges facing some schools.

How are meals being distributed?



Is your school currently (or planning on) providing meals or food service to students due to an unanticipated school closure?

241 responses



Continuity of Learning Plans

- NDE now requires brief Continuity of Learning Plans to address the following two questions:
 - How do you plan to serve students?
 - How do you plan to serve students with disabilities?
- Continuity of Learning Plans are submitted using a submission form:
<https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/colp/> (public) and
- <https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/colpnp/> (non-public)
- The forms are due by April 3rd.
 - The information submitted will help the NDE tailor supports for the remainder of the school year and throughout the summer
 - For more information, contact Dr. Cory Epler: cory.epler@nebraska.gov

Continuity of Educational Services for Students with Special Needs

- Ensure students with and without disabilities are treated equitably.
- Required by federal and state anti-discrimination laws (Title II of ADA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act), and the IDEA.
- Continue to consider strategies:
 - ✓ The use of accessible distance technology
 - ✓ The use of small groups of students with disabilities
 - ✓ Access to nondisabled peers
 - ✓ Instructional phone calls
 - ✓ Other content-based activities
- School staff and staff from other impacted agencies should be included in planning efforts.
- IEP teams should meet to determine the individual student's plan.

Accountability & Assessment

- On March 25, NDE received a waiver from the USDOE for 2019-2020 assessment, accountability, school identification, and reporting requirements.
- On March 18, NDE suspended all statewide assessments (NSCAS) for 2019-2020.
- Rules and regulation should not be the priority during this time.

Graduation

- The NDE advises schools to continue instruction and learning with the expectation that seniors are preparing to graduate.
- Teachers focus on providing the necessary help to ensure graduation.
- Teachers generally know which students might need additional assistance and which are on track.

Wrap-Up

- Our priorities remain the safety and wellbeing of all students, educators, staff, and community members.
- Please continue to submit your questions to <https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/contact/>





Thank you!